

June 12, 1970

AAC Claims Moving Cheaper Than Meeting State Standards

COLUMBIA FALLS — Officials of the Anaconda Aluminum Co. at Columbia Falls told members of the Gals Against Smog and Pollution (GASP) in Flathead County Tuesday that moving the plant to the Ohio Valley would be cheaper than meeting proposed fluoride emission standards.

They were also told, according to Mrs. Robert Muth, acting

chairman of GASP, that the officials are selective in the information they release to the public concerning results of fluoride tests conducted on plants and animal bones in the area.

The Flathead group of GASP had been invited by the company to tour the AAC reduction plant at Columbia Falls. Mrs. Muth said they were shown the plant by Warren Hook, environmental director; LeRoy Porter, laboratory director, and Jack Canavan, public relations director.

Charles Taylor, plant manager, greeted the women and later entertained at his home for lunch. Mrs. Muth said her group was told AAC could not afford to meet fluoride emission standards proposed by state environmental officials.

She said the group's tour of

the plant included the laboratory where fluoride emission tests are conducted. She said the company is now doing tests on plants and animal bones in the area, adding that Porter told them he turned his results over to Hook and Taylor, who release

to the public what findings they wish from his tests.

Mrs. Muth emphasized that the AAC officials appeared very familiar with local GASP activities and articles, expressing much interest in many of the sources used by the group.

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